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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,189	03/12/2004	Kentaro Fukushima	RYUKA.009AUS	8608

7590

09/06/2005

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, TUNG X

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2829

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/800,189	Applicant(s) FUKUSHIMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Tung X. Nguyen	Art Unit 2829	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 11 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/12/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of group I with claims 1-13 in the reply filed on 8/01/05 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 14-15 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected group II, III, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 8/01/05.

Drawings

3. Figures 14-15 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 1-2, 4, 10, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Mardi et al. (u.s.p 6,891,384).

As to claim 1, Mardi et al. disclose in Figs. 6, a connection unit (400, 352 of figure 6) for electrically connecting a DUT (100) mounting board, on which an IC socket (304 of figure 6) is mounted, with a testing apparatus (352) for testing an electronic device inserted into said IC socket, said connection unit comprising: a holding substrate (400) provided to face said DUT mounting board; and a connection-unit-side connector (304), which is provided on said holding substrate to be able to change a position of said connection-unit-side connector on said holding substrate, for connecting to a performance-board-side connector (356) which said DUT mounting board comprises (fig. 6).

As to claim 2, Mardi et al. disclose in Figs. 6, wherein said holding substrate comprises, in case a position of said performance-board-side connector (304) varies according to kinds of said DUT mounting board, a means for moving said connection-unit-side connector to a position corresponding to said varied position of said performance-board-side connector (col. 2, lines 45-50).

As to claims 4, 10, 12, Mardi et al. disclose in Figs. 6, wherein the connection-unit-side connectors are plural (304, 404 of figure 6), and distances between said plurality of connection-unit-side connectors can be changed on said holding substrate (fig. 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

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6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mardi et al (u.s.p 6,891,384), in view of Ito et al. (u.s.p 6,320,398).

As to claim 3, Mardi et al. disclose in Figs. 6, all of the limitation except for the connection-unit-side connector is detachable from the holding substrate and re-attached to other holding substrate. However, Ito et al. disclose in col. 7, lines 15-20 the connection-unit-side connector is detachable from the holding substrate and re-attached to other holding substrate for inserting the other kind of IC or DUT on it. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify the system of Mardi et al, and provides the detachable or re-attachable connector, as taught by Ito et al. for inserting the other kind of IC or DUT on it.

8. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mardi et al (u.s.p 6,891,384), in view of Tustaniwskyj et al. (u.s.p 6,522,156).

As to claim 5, Mardi et al. disclose all of the limitations except for wherein said connection-unit-side connector is provided in order that said distance can be changed. However, Tustaniwskyj et al. disclose in Figs. 2, wherein said connection-unit-side connector (12b of figure 2) is provided in order that said distance can be changed (via 14b) for making good to contact with the DUT (13c of figure 2). Therefore, It would have

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been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify the system of Mardi et al., and provide the connector's distance can be changed, as taught by Tustaniwskyj et al. for making good to contact with the DUT (13c of figure 2).

9. Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mardi et al (u.s.p 6,891,384), in view of Price et al. (u.s.p 6,462,570).

As to claims 6-8, Mardi et al disclose all of the limitations except for the holding substrate has a penetrating hole, and a connection cable for electrically connecting the connection unit side connector and testing apparatus. However, Price et al disclose in Figs. 2-4, the holding substrate has a penetrating hole (170 of figure 3A), and the connection cable (fig. 2) for electrically connecting the connection unit side connector and testing apparatus. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to modify the system of Mardi et al. and provide the holding substrate with penetrating hole and a connection cable, as taught by Price et al. for electrically connecting the connection unit side connector and testing apparatus (fig. 2).

Allowable Subject Matter

10. Claims 9, 11, 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claims 9, 11, the prior art does not teach the connection unit, wherein cross sections of said IC socket and said connection-unit-side connector are rectangular

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respectively at a surface substantially parallel to said holding substrate, and said holding substrate holds said connection-unit-side connector so that a longer side of said cross section of said connection-unit-side connector faces a nearest side of said cross section of said IC socket, in case said connection-unit-side connector is positioned most closely to said IC socket, with regard to a direction of diameter; in combination with the other claimed features.

As to claim 13, the prior art does not teach the connection unit wherein a small diameter performance board positioning member, provided on said holding substrate, for designating DUT mounting board of which a diameter is smaller than a predetermined diameter, and a large diameter performance board positioning member, provided at a position farther from said IC socket than a position of said small diameter performance board positioning member on said holding substrate, for designating a DUT mounting board of which a diameter is larger than a predetermined diameter; in combination with the other claimed features.

Conclusion


11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung X. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (571) 272-2034. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TN
8/30/05


VINH NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A.U. 2829
09/02/05